FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO TALES TO WELL THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO TALES TO THE DISTRICT OF THE DIST

STATE OF NEW MEXICO et rel. State Engineer,

Plaintiff,

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ROMAN ARAGON, et al.,

Rio Chama Stream System Rio Gallina, Section 5

Defendants.

ANSWER TO COMPLAINT FOR ADJUDICATION OF WATER RIGHTS BY BERNIE AND ESTHER VELASQUEZ

Subfile no. CHGA-03-0006

Defendants Bernie Velasquez and Esther Velasquez object to the proposed adjudication by the New Mexico State engineer that they have no water rights to irrigate their land from the Cordova/Martinez Ditch, and object to the proposed Consent Order as it pertains to them.

Defendants Velasquez make a claim to irrigated land in excess of the 6.1 acres referenced in the Subfile Clerical Photograph included with the Summons and Complaint they received. Their claim of water rights is based upon the continuous and historical irrigation of their land from the Cordova/Martinez Ditch since the 1950's and earlier, taking into consideration the fact that not all years is the irrigation water available in the ditch.

Defendants Velasquez made a good faith effort to resolve their disagreement with the State's proposed Consent Order by meeting with Ed Newville, attorney for the State Engineer, in Gallina, N.M. on July 18, 2000, at which time our water rights were discussed.

WHEREFORE, Defendants Bernie and Esther Velasquez pray for a fair adjudication of their water rights.

RONALD BOYD Attorney for Velasquez 208 Griffin Street Santa Fe, NM 87501 (505) 984-0121

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

Ву: